

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Subj. File: Soobzokov
2 June 80

Office of General Counsel

OGC 80-04669

2 June 1980

Mr. Glenn A. Bertness
Assistant Commissioner for Investigations
Immigration & Naturalization Service
Room 7222, CAB Building
425 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20536

Dear Mr. Bertness:

During his review of CIA files, Mr. Joseph Lynch, Office of Special Investigations, Department of Justice, expressed his interest in any third agency documents in CIA files which would reveal the extent of the government's prior knowledge of the background of Tscherim Soobzokov, a defendant in a denaturalization proceeding brought by the Department of Justice. A review of our files has disclosed the attached summary of information obtained from the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service which may be of interest to Mr. Lynch.

Because the information in the document originated with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, I request that you review the attached document and advise this office as to whether the Immigration and Naturalization Service has any objection to disclosing this information to Mr. Lynch or other members of his office.

I understand that the government is facing an impending deadline in this litigation and, accordingly, I request your response at the earliest opportunity. I can be reached at 351-6410.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

Sincerely yours, .

Office of General Counsel

Enclosure:

Summary, undated

BCC: [] , IMS/FPLG/DDO
[] , SAG/OS

OGC:JPK:lck

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GENERAL;

At Newark, N. J.:

On 30 October 1956, the following additional information was obtained from the aforementioned I&HS file No. A 10 083 288, in the name of the SUBJECT.

SUBJECT indicated in his application for a visa, submitted to the American Embassy, Consular Section, at Amman, Jordan, that he was known as ABDEL-KARIM SH-----QA and also TSCHERIM -----KOV. He indicated his last permanent residence was P.O.B. 326, Amman, Jordan. SUBJECT has one brother, HUSA -----KOV, who is residing at P.O.B. 326, Amman, Jordan. The SUBJECT was issued a Jordan Passport, on 23 March 1955, at Amman, numbered 110469, which would be valid until 23 March 1960.

He indicated that upon coming to the United States, he would be destined to the TOLSTOY FOUNDATION, 300 West 58 Street, New York City. He described himself as having brown hair and eyes, being 5' 10" tall and weighing 152 lbs. He indicated that he was a citizen of Jordan and was a Circassian. He was married and advised that his occupation was agricultural engineer. He speaks and reads the following languages: Circassian, Russian, German, Italian and English. He also indicated that he speaks Arabic but does not read it. His purpose in coming to the United States was to establish permanent residence. He indicated that the following were his residences from birth to date:

1. Birth to 1943 - Tachtamukai, and other parts of the Caucasus.
2. 1943 to 1944 - German Army in North Caucasus.
3. 1944 to 1945 - Moved with retreating German Army until they arrived at Villach, Austria, in 1945.
4. 1945 to October 1947 - Rome, Italy.
5. October 1947 to date - Amman, Jordan.

SUBJECT indicated that he was married and that his wife's name was HOSHNASHO -----KOV, and she was residing at P.O.B. 326, Amman, Jordan. He has two children named KAZBEK and SARA. It was his intention to have his wife and children accompany him to the United States. SUBJECT indicated his parents, both of whom are deceased, were TO -----KOV and KORASH TO -----KOV.

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SUBJECT indicated that he was making a visa application under the nonpreference quota stating, "I was registered on the Soviet nonpreference quota waiting list of intending immigrants as of February 23, 1950." He also pointed out that he had been in the Soviet Army, claiming it was compulsory from 1939 to 1942.

When SUBJECT was asked if he had ever been arrested the following quotation was his reply: "I was arrested by the Soviet authorities in 1940 for about two and a half months under pretext of a political offense and was later released and pronounced innocent of the charge in Smolensk." SUBJECT was issued Visa #1043, under the Soviet nonpreference quota, on 6 April 1955.

The SUBJECT supplied the following information in order to obtain his Alien Registration card:

He indicated that he was known under the aforementioned two names, and that he resided at 47 North Third Street, Paterson, N. J. He arrived in the United States, at the Port of New York, on 28 June 1955, aboard the S. S. SATURNIA.

On 20 December 1955, the SUBJECT made an application for a permit to reenter the United States. In completing the necessary forms, he gave all the aforesaid background information and added that he was employed by the TOTOWA MOTORS, 595 Union Boulevard, Totowa, N. J. SUBJECT planned to be out of the United States for approximately two weeks and that he was to visit England, Lebanon and Jordan. The purpose for his trip was to visit a sick brother whose address was P.O.B. 326, Amman, Jordan. He also pointed out that he planned to use TWA transportation. On 8 May 1956, the SUBJECT was granted his reentry permit.

No other information was contained in the file.